

Volume 13, No. 4



January-February 2016



Windham News & Notes



Happy New Year 2016!

Sally Hoover Deserves a Big Thank You!

by Mia Clark

Sally Hoover, the only Windham resident on the Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad (LVRS), has recently resigned as our town's emergency first responder. We greatly appreciate the dedicated service she has provided all of us over the last seven years, and we hope another great Windham volunteer will step up to take her place.

Sally joined the LVRS in the winter of 2009 after receiving her training as an emergency medical responder (EMR). The following year, she completed the longer and more involved emergency medical technician (EMT) training. She has been a member of one of several three- to four-person teams that serve our greater community through LVRS.



Sally carried a beeper to be notified when an emergency occurred. If that emergency was in Windham, she could reach the victim about 10 or 15 minutes before the ambulance would arrive from Londonderry. This demonstrates why it is so beneficial to have a member of the rescue squad in Windham. The first responder's role is to tend to the victim, assess the situation, and call or radio in what is called a "windshield report", so the paramedics and others in the ambulance have a sense of what to expect when they arrive at the scene.

In addition, Sally's duties included a 12-hour on-call shift every sixth night. In bad weather during the winter, she would spend the night at the station so she would be available with her team for any in-coming emergency calls.

LVRS responds to all emergencies, not only permanent residents but second-home owners, as well as tourists, and the service is entirely free. LVRS is also called to help with search and rescue missions. When hikers and snowmobilers may get lost, LVRS is there not only for the victim, but also to tend to the search team if need be.

Sally has responded to over 150 emergencies during her years on the squad. Each incident required about three hours from the time of the call, including travel, treatment, ambulance transport to a nearby hospital, writing up the report, and restocking the ambulance. Thank you, Sally, for your many years of service!

A volunteer is needed to take Sally's place. If you are interested or have questions, please call Sally Hoover at 875-6224.

REMINDER: TOWN MEETING MARCH 1 at 10 AM

at the MEETING HOUSE; also VOTE in the PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

Potluck Lunch and Drinks \$1

Select Board News – Truck, Roads, Budget, and More

by Mary Boyer, Frank Seawright, and Kord Scott

The delayed arrival of winter has given the road crew extended time for winter preparation of roads and machines. Jon is getting familiar with the big equipment under favorable conditions, while Josh is doing inventory and updating equipment. Amongst the other issues, we have been continuing our equipment evaluation process per the report included in the 2015 Town Report.

The first two obvious priorities were the loader and grader. Next on the list to be addressed was the pickup truck. We reached the conclusion that the 3/4-ton pickup truck was really not suitable for many of the uses we have for a third vehicle. Josh, Jon and Ralph found a used pickup being sold by the Town of Mendon that filled their requirements. This Ford f550 is more suitable for highway maintenance. It came with a side dump sander which spreads material in front of the tires for traction as well as in the center of the road for salting. The road crew will use less salt/sand and less gas, making one pass on the roads instead of two.

The truck can be utilized in many ways, like hauling brush, moving culverts, transporting small loads of gravel, and pulling the chipper. This means less wear and tear on the big trucks. It came with a

9½ foot Fisher X-Treme V-plow. Josh's research indicated we could sell the old truck and put the revenue toward the purchase of this newer one. In addition, both the new truck and the old truck had the same plows, so we were able to sell one plow. In all, the truck cost us about \$5,000. Josh did a very nice job leading us through the entire process, including selling our old truck from his front lawn.

We will be experimenting with a liquid de-icer (magnesium chloride) to be added to the road salt. It is meant to lower the freezing temperature of ice and snow and be less environmentally damaging than salt. Consequently, we hope to use less salt on our roads. It is also used as a road stabilizer on the dirt roads in the summertime.

We have engaged in a more formal budgeting process this year. It started back in September, earlier than usual, and we have met with all departments to discuss their budget needs and desires for the next year. This year, thanks to Peter and Kathy, our accounting and finances are in such good shape that we have been able to broaden our focus to include more long-range planning. We appreciate everyone who participated in this process and look forward to presenting the 2016 budget at Town Meeting on March 1.

We wish all of you a very Happy New Year, and good skiing and snowmobiling when the white stuff finally arrives.

Select Board Provides Winter Roads Policy

by the Select Board

Despite the slow start to winter, severe weather is predicted, and we want it to be safe for everyone as we attempt to meet the challenges of snow removal. In order for residents and visitors to manage expectations, the board and road crew have agreed on the following winter policy.

Plow routes are set up to open the school routes and major traffic routes first. Operations usually begin at 4:00 AM to have the bus route and major roads cleared by 7:00 AM. After 16 hours on the job, the road crew is required to stop operations and get a minimum of six hours of rest. In extreme weather, a third part-time employee is available to accommodate this requirement. In most cases, there will be no maintenance between 10:00 PM and 4:00 AM.

Salt will be applied to paved roads, with sand added as necessary. (Salt is not effective when road temperatures are below 20 degrees.) Sand will be applied to the gravel roads.

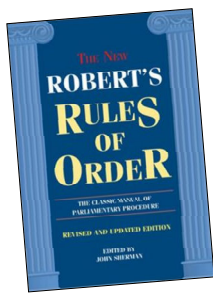
For your part, we ask the following: All turn-around areas should be kept clear of vehicles. Park your vehicles in your driveways back from where snow will be thrown, so they don't get damaged or buried. When removing snow from your property, please make sure it does not get pushed or thrown into the plowed road. The resulting piles on our roads are dangerous to passing traffic and can lead to accidents.

(Continued on Page 4)



Robert's Rules Help Manage Town Meeting

from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns



On Tuesday, March 1, you can visit almost every town in Vermont and witness the same parliamentary procedure being utilized to conduct Town Meeting. Robert's Rules of Order has provided a systematic way to order meetings which enables all to be heard without interruption, to hear all sides of a debate, and to make informed decisions in a timely fashion.

The prime value of parliamentary procedure is that it provides processes through which an organization, large or small, can work out satisfactory solutions to the greatest number of questions in the least amount of time. It helps meetings run smoothly when everyone is in agreement with procedures and allows the group to come to decisions fairly when issues are bitterly contested.

The guiding principles of Robert's Rules are: Everyone has a right to participate in discussions if they wish before anyone may speak a second time. Everyone has the right to know what is going on at all times. Only very urgent matters may interrupt a speaker. Only one motion can be discussed at a time. Once you have been recognized by the moderator, all comments are directed to him/her.

The role of the moderator is to help you accomplish the business you intend to do. Raise your hand and ask questions if you do not understand what is happening, or if you think what is happening is wrong for some reason, or if you want to do something but don't know how to do it.

Although originally derived from practices in the English Parliament, parliamentary procedure as it exists in America today has gradually evolved somewhat differently. Henry Martyn Robert (1837-1923), a distinguished engineer who retired from the U.S. Army as a brigadier general had considerable influence on its development. When Henry first conceived his book of guidelines, he envisioned 50 pages or less to be useable by every meeting-goer, no matter what the size of the meeting. The first edition published in 1876 had 176 pages. The latest edition, #11 has just short of 700. Henry M. Robert III is among the team of parliamentarians that continue to update and revise Robert's Rules of Order. The book's length is due to questions that have continued to arise since the original publication.

Town Meeting is a day of democracy in action and your unique opportunity to participate in Windham's governance. Be there, be alert and enjoy the day.



WINDHAM NEWS & NOTES

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Many thanks to all who contribute. Send articles of around 300 words to the address on the last page or email to: windhamnews@hotmail.com.

Next deadline: February 15, 2016

Ben Luce to Speak in Windham *by N&N Staff*

Professor of physics and sustainability studies at Lyndon State College, Ben Luce will speak at the Windham Elementary School, January 16 at 6 PM. Dr. Luce is being hosted by Friends of Windham. He is a professor and researcher of sustainable energy and physics, and a founder/former director of the Coalition for Clean Affordable Energy. He is also a former president of the New Mexico Solar Energy Association, and a former renewable energy program manager at Los Alamos National Laboratory.



Property owners wishing to file for the HOMESTEAD TAX EXEMPTION MUST FILE ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15th, tax day. This is usually filed each year with your Vermont State Income Tax return. If you are filing for an extension of your taxes, you must still file for the Homestead Tax Exemption every year by the deadline of April 15. Failure to do so incurs rather substantial fines/loss of homestead status on your property taxes.

(Continued from Page 2) **Winter Roads Policy**

The crew will make every reasonable effort to plow close to mailboxes, but not so close as to take them down – sometimes a balancing act. The more thoughtfully your mailbox is located and maintained, the less likely it will be damaged by the weight of the snow or the plow wing itself. The town cannot be responsible for mailbox damage.

When the plows are on the road please be patient. Don't pass unless necessary. Remember, the drivers are up high above the road, and their primary attention is on the road and the plow, not passing vehicles. We anticipate a safe winter for everyone and thank you for your thoughtfulness.



New Dog Ordinance Proposed *by the Select Board*

As mentioned in the last issue of the *WN&N*, Windham recently had an unfortunate incident of a vicious dog bite that has led us to examine our existing Dog Ordinance adopted in 1997. Although that is not terribly outdated as ordinances go, we believe it is time to update it to better protect the public and to clarify the due process rights of all animal owners.

We have sought the advice of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns and our municipal attorney and have an ordinance draft available for your review. It will be posted for 60 days during which time anyone can make comments and a group of 16 voters can petition for a vote.

The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the keeping of dogs and wolf-hybrids and to provide for their leashing, muzzling, restraint, impoundment and destruction if necessary, so as to protect the public health and safety of the town's residents and ensure the quiet enjoyment of their homes and properties. In summary, the ordinance defines nuisance animals and vicious ones and sets out procedures for handling complaints of each type. Penalties are established, and the rights of owners are spelled out.

We hope that a new ordinance will clarify expectations, equalize everyone's right under the law, and establish community standards that we can all accept. The ordinance will be available in the Town Office in hard copy and electronically at www.windhamvt.info for your review. Notice of warning will be posted on the bulletin boards at the Town Office, Meeting House, and Firehouse.

Town Meeting Set for Tuesday, March 1 *by Mary Boyer*

Town Meeting Day, the first Tuesday in March, is everyone's opportunity to participate in town governance. It's our collective way to maintain control of our local issues. Those in attendance discuss and vote on articles that include both the budget and town issues that have been warned.

If you would like to become more involved in serving Windham, please consider running for office. You must be nominated for any elected position from the floor at town meeting. There are also appointed positions to be filled by the select board on March 7, 2016 which is the first select board meeting after Town Meeting. Please contact the select board if you would like to serve in one of these positions. They are listed in the Town Report which will be mailed to you before town meeting.

Duties and responsibilities of all town officers are easily accessible from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns at www.vlct.org. Click on "Vermont Local Government" or ask at the Town Office.

Positions to be elected at our Town Meeting this

year are listed below along with the term of office and the incumbent.

Moderator, 1 year, Mike McLaine
 Town Clerk, 3 years, Bonnie Chamberlain
 Town Treasurer, 3 years, Peter Chamberlain
 Selectman, 3 years, position open
 Lister, 3 years, Michael Simonds
 Auditor, 3 years, Sally Hoover
 Constable, 2 years, Billy Jean Clay
 Delinquent Tax Collector, 1 year, Ernie Friedli
 Grand Juror, 1 year, Jim Scott
 Town Agent, 1 year, Michael Simonds
 Windham Center Cemetery Commission, 5 years, Mark Emmonds
 West Windham Cemetery Commission, 5 years, Michael Pelton
 North Windham Cemetery Commission, 5 years, Peter Van Alstyne, Jr.
 Library Trustee, 5 years, John Hoover
 Windham School Director, 3 years, Antje Rupert

If you plan to run for one of these positions and would like to submit a short introduction of yourself along with qualifications for the office for the next edition of News and Notes, please submit by February 15 to windhamnews@hotmail.com.

Cathy and John Make Progress at Home

by Mary McCoy

When I arrive at the home of Cathy Stover and her husband John Boynton, to talk about Cathy's motivation to serve on Windham's Energy Committee, she tells me the work on their house isn't done yet and calls it "a work in progress." The place looks cozy and nearly complete to me. By the time I leave, I think calling their home "a work in progress" has two meanings. More about that later.

Cathy has been concerned about environmental issues since the 1980s. "It pains me to see our throw-away society," she says. "We're so wasteful. I try to reuse all I can. If it's broken, I try to fix it." Back in the 80s, Cathy worked with computers. She and John met through friends in 1984, and he joined her efforts in recycling.

In the late 1990s, Cathy switched careers and became an RN. She's worked on intensive care units since then, primarily at Brattleboro Memorial Hospital. John has been a carpenter most of his life. Both see unnecessary waste in their jobs. "Even bedpans," Cathy says. "We used to wash them. Now they're plastic – we use them once and pitch them. Almost everything at the hospital is like that now."

When they built their home on Wheeler Road, their goal was to build it well and economically. John did most of the work himself, clearing the land and building the foundation one summer and erecting the house shell the next summer. It has a post and beam construction, an open floor plan, lots of insulation, and R-valued windows. He was able to reuse building materials he had on hand and to purchase other materials that were discounted.

Cathy and John thought their home was in good shape, but they were using more oil in their boiler than they wanted. Not only was that costly, but as Cathy says, "We didn't want to burn so much fossil fuel" which contributes to global warming. So they decided to see if there were ways to lower their oil use and arranged an energy audit through Efficiency Vermont.

They were surprised by the audit's findings which suggested a number of changes. But with incentives from the state in the form of rebates toward the costs, Cathy and John followed through on the recommendations. They sealed areas where outside air came inside – through the attic and basement, around electric outlets, and up the chimney. The flue didn't close tightly, and fixing that stopped a major leak. They also added more insulation in the attic. The biggest change was the installation of two heat pumps which became Cathy and John's primary source of heating, with the oil boiler becoming backup.



John Boynton and Cathy Stover with new heat pump

Heat pumps work by moving warm air from outside to inside or from inside to outside, depending on the season. Even if air is very cold, heat energy is present, and today's heat pumps can find warmth in temperatures down to negative five degrees. When it's cold outside a heat pump extracts the outside heat and transfers it inside. When it's warm outside, it reverses directions, pumping heat out of your home.

The annual cost of heating with heat pumps is among the least expensive. Only geothermal heat pumps and wood stoves are cheaper to operate, and that is based on the cost of wood being low. An oil boiler can cost twice as much to operate as a heat pump, and a propane furnace can cost nearly three times as much.

Cathy joined the Energy Committee to share her experience, saying "I want others to have the same advantage we have." So she's spreading the word about saving energy at home. When she says their house is a "work in progress," it seems to me that not only means their house awaits some finishing touches, but it also means their house is a work in Progress toward a future with more efficient use of fuel.

School Needs Help with Kid Count

by Carolyn Partridge, Beth McDonald, and Antje Ruppert

The Windham Elementary School Board is in the process of building the FY2017 budget, and we welcome your input. In particular, we are trying to determine the amount of money needed to fund the Pre-K program. It would be of great help to know how many young children we have in town, so we ask that if you have, or know of, a child between birth and 5 years old, please call the school and speak to Mickey, Sally, or Gail.

Each 3- and 4-year-old is entitled to be funded for up to \$3000 if they attend a licensed facility that is certified for Pre-K. In order to appropriate the correct amount of money, we really need your help. It would also be great to know about younger children coming along so we can plan for coming years. We thank you for your help.

We also have been participating with the Windham

Central Supervisory Union (WCSU) regarding potential governance changes. We remain committed to keeping the Windham Elementary School open in order to provide excellent educational opportunities for our children at the local level. We appreciate the parental/community involvement with the school – it makes all the difference!

Our next meeting will be on January 4 at 3:00 PM (not 4:00 PM). Please note this change, which is due to Carolyn's need to be in Montpelier that evening. We always welcome the public's attendance at our meetings which are usually on the first Monday of the month at 4:00 PM at the elementary school. We will meet on February 1 at 4:00 PM and will then hold our FY2017 Budget Information Meeting later on February 1, 2016 at 6:30 PM. We encourage your attendance and staff from the WCSU office will be present to answer your questions.



Halloween Hug; Ralph Wyman and Meg Carson

Fire Company Hosts Halloween Party

by Marcia Clinton

On Friday evening, October 30, the Windham Firehouse was invaded by ghouls, vampires, princesses, a tiger, storybook characters and other scary creatures - all on the short side - as the kids in town gathered for the annual Halloween party.

Prizes were given for the funniest, prettiest, ugliest, scariest, cutest, most original, weirdest, and creepiest costumes. Then the firemen took everyone on a hayride through North Windham. Upon return the kids feasted on hot dogs, cider, fruit and sweets (hay wagon riding builds up an appetite). More prizes were awarded for musical chairs, eating a donut hanging on a string, and guessing how much candy in a jar. As each child left the party they were given a bag of candy and a book to read. It was a toss up as to who had the most fun, the kids or the adults who put on the party.

The members of the Fire Company thank everyone who responded to our annual appeal for donations. We rely on your financial assistance for equipment and training programs for our new members.

Jungermanns Move to Family Home

by Kathy Jugermann

Hi, we're the Jungermann family – Keith, Kathy, and our son Matt. We moved from northern New Jersey to Windham in October. Our home on Windham Hill Road belonged to Keith's grandparents, Captain Harry Anderson and his wife Elsa, then Keith's parents, William and Harriet. While growing up, Keith spent every summer vacation in Windham, and he always wanted to live here.

Keith has worked for Panasonic for 36 years. In fact, we met while working together at Panasonic. We were married in Chester on a very snowy day in January 1984. We then spent several years living in southern California before moving back to New Jersey where we lived for 25 years. Our vacations and long weekends were spent here in Windham, both working on the house and just enjoying Vermont.

Kathy was employed as a paraprofessional working with special needs students in an elementary school classroom. Matthew worked in retail before moving to Vermont. He is currently enjoying hiking and exploring Windham as he considers job opportunities and continues his education.

We are happy to finally be full-time residents of Windham and want to thank everyone for making us feel so welcome.



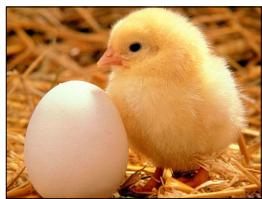
Keith and Kathy

Precautions Needed for

Poultry Owners *from Marcia Clinton*

The Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) affected a number of farms in the Midwest last year, and an impact on the East Coast was expected for the fall of 2015 or spring of 2016. Domestic poultry are highly susceptible to HPAI H5 virus, which can spread rapidly from bird to bird and typically results in high mortality rates.

The disease is most commonly spread to domestic poultry by infected waterfowl, through direct contact or contact with droppings, during migration periods. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture is encouraging poultry owners to prepare for HPAI. All poultry owners, whether they are backyard hobbyists or commercial producers, should evaluate their farms for risk factors that could contribute to avian influenza occurring on their farms. Risk factors include: Poultry housed outside; ponds or other water fowl attractants on the farm; piles of debris located close to poultry areas; introduction of poultry from other farms without a quarantine period; lack of personal protective equipment such as dedicated coveralls and boots; and sharing of equipment between farms.



All poultry owners, regardless of size and business structure, should engage in the following disease preparedness measures: Obtain a federal premises identification number by calling the State Veterinarian's Office at

(802) 828-2421.

Complete the Producer Preparedness Biosecurity Audit Form which is accessible at <http://agriculture.vermont.gov/animalhealth>. Keep



poultry away from wild birds, particularly waterfowl, and remove wild bird attractants from poultry housing areas. If poultry are housed indoors, don't let wild birds (or their fecal material) into barns. Clean and disinfect all equipment prior to entry into a barn or poultry housing area. Use barn-specific boots and coveralls and consider using boot baths/washes. Do not bring disease home with you – if you exhibit your poultry at fairs or swaps, do not share cages or equipment with other poultry owners. Familiarize yourself with signs of illness in your birds and call the State Veterinarian's Office if you see nasal discharge, difficulty breathing, lethargy, discolored wattles or combs, a drop in egg production, or sudden death.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers the risk to people from these HPAI H5 infections to be low. There have been no human cases detected in the USA or internationally. Influenza in poultry does not constitute a food safety risk.

More information is available in a 3-page handout at the Town Office or on the website: www.agriculture.vermont.gov/animalhealth

Hard Choices Face Vermont Legislators

by Carolyn Partridge

The Vermont Legislature will convene for the 2016 Session on January 5 at 10:00 AM. Perhaps, our hardest task will be to build a responsible, balanced budget that meets the needs of Vermont's most vulnerable citizens, while respecting our taxpayers' pocketbooks.

There is serious work being done to deal with our projected ongoing shortfall, which we refer to as "the alligator's mouth." If you look at a graph of the growth of our projected expenses versus projected revenue, it looks like an alligator's mouth. Our job is to bring those lines together and close the mouth.

For several years, we have been implementing the guidelines of Results-Based Accountability (RBA). As a result, each committee will be asking all of the agencies and departments under their purview three questions regarding the programs they offer. As we consider the success of their offerings, we will want to know what they are doing, how well they are doing it, and if anyone is better off as a result of the program. As each program is scrutinized, decisions will be made regarding its future.

Besides the budget, there will also be a number of big issues to be worked on including the future of universal health care, the legalization of marijuana, education funding, and ongoing water quality issues.

During the legislative session, I can be contacted at the State House by phone, toll-free at 1-800-322-5616. The office of the sergeant at arms will deliver your message, and I will return your call as soon as possible. By mail, the address is 115 State St, Drawer 33, Montpelier, VT, 05633-5201. My legislative email is cpartridge@leg.state.vt.us, and my website where I post my weekly articles is www.carolynpartridge.com. On the weekend, I can be reached at home at 802-874-4182, 1612 Old Cheney Rd, Windham, VT, 05359. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions, thoughts, and/or concerns.

Bells Enjoy Life in Vermont

by Maureen Bell

Vance and I moved into our house in Timber Ridge full-time at the end of 2011, after being “almost-every-weekenders” since we bought the house in 2000.

I was a buyer and import manager for a specialty food company for the last 20 years of my career, while Vance was a mass spectroscopist (chemist) with a pharmaceutical company for his entire career.

While I am from northern New Jersey, Vance is from southwestern Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh. But we are both so thrilled to have found the mountains of southern Vermont, where we ski, hike, snowmobile, kayak, garden and build things! I recently attended my first book club meeting (ever!) which was at the Windham Library, and I enjoyed it very much – I love to read! We also love to travel, which is often made easy since we have siblings in San Diego, Montreal, and Italy!

I am both a master gardener and composter, affiliated with UVM, though I became certified in NJ.

Energy Workshop Promotes

Weatherization by Mary McCoy

On Thursday, November 19, about 25 people gathered to gain ideas for holding down their winter fuel bills. The workshop was led by Jeff Manney of Efficiency Vermont and was sponsored by Windham’s Energy Committee.

Jeff began by saying that those who “button up their homes” will not only be more comfortable, but they will also save \$500 to \$600 a year in fuel. Using the incentives now available through the state and federal governments, it will take eight years or less for most people to pay back the cost of needed improvements.

There are two main ways to weatherize your home – conservation and efficiency. Conservation refers to using less fuel through discipline, such as putting on an extra sweater, turning the thermostat down, using low flow shower heads, and wrapping your hot water heater and pipes. Efficiency refers to using equipment that requires less energy to run. Heat pumps, for example, are far more efficient than traditional furnaces or boilers. (See article on Cathy Stover and John Boynton.) Switching to Energy Star equipment, including LED lights, can also cut expenses.



Another key to efficiency is preventing

You can find me “manning” an information table at the West River and West Townshend farmer’s markets during the season.

Vance, in retirement, is an accomplished photographer who recently became a member of the Mountain Painters and Artisans in the Londonderry Marketplace. You can meet him there on most Thursdays and Sundays, while looking at locally-inspired artwork of all kinds.

As for family, I have a stepson and a 14-year old granddaughter who live in the Philadelphia area. We’re here in Vermont all by ourselves, but have very much enjoyed meeting our neighbors and participating in local events.

heat loss by turning your home into a “tight envelope”. Cold air typically enters your home from the foundation and basement, while warm air primarily escapes through the attic and roof. You want to seal all holes to prevent air transfer and thoroughly insulate all the walls in your home.

Buttoning up begins with an energy audit, conducted by a trained professional. This can cost \$150 to \$400, depending on the provider and the size of your house. They will identify the places



where air is entering or escaping your home and where you need to add insulation. They might also recommend changes in equipment, and they’ll name any health and safety issues that exist in your home, such as gas leaks, internal venting, and mold.

Once the recommended work is done, you can apply for incentives from Efficiency Vermont, as well as receive credits on your federal taxes for up to \$500 or 10 percent of your expense. Low-cost loans also exist to cover the cost of weatherizing.

For more information, go to www.efficiencyvermont.com. If you are interested in joining the Energy Committee or have questions, contact one of its member – Buddy Behrendt, Cathy Stover, Pete McDonald, Phil McDuffie, or Michael Simonds. They are working on additional ways to address Windham’s energy usage.



Windham's Got Talent: Bev and Tom Carmichael

by Imme Maurath

If you've ever gone to our library on Wednesdays, you would already know what a talented baker Bev Carmichael is, as she always brings treats. Some years back, she even baked professionally down on the Cape.



Bev & Tom's pantry

But Bev is not the only one in the kitchen. Back at home, her Tommy is the one that cooks most of the meals. Over the kitchen sink is a sign saying "GET OUT," so in other words, "I'm in charge here", except on Thanksgiving, when Tom lets Bev back in the kitchen to make the gravy. I would know, as I saw it first-hand this year.

And while Tommy is busy cooking, don't think that Bev is slacking. Nope! She's either spinning, or knitting something for one of her ten grandchildren and three great-grands. There's nothing she can't knit. So if you ever need help with those needles, call Bev. She loves helping too.



Tom & Bev together in the kitchen

Jojo & Dogs Fulfill Dream of Living in Vermont

by Jojo Chlebogiannis

I was a Friday night road warrior, whether there was ice, snow, sleet or rain, my determination to get to my "happy place" put me on auto pilot. Leaving Connecticut after working a stressful 14 to 16 hour day, you'd think I wouldn't have the energy to drive the three and a half hours to get here. But there was no stopping me. Sometimes leaving Connecticut at 9:00 PM made the most sense, in that I could avoid all of that southern Connecticut intense and crazy traffic.

My dogs, yes folks, I have six of them – four standard poodles (George, Oliver, Cosmo & Hartley), a 17- year-old blind (he has no eyes) and almost deaf toy poodle (Sam), and my ever so naughty five-pound Maltese, (Prince William). They had their routine down pat. When I arrived home from work, they knew when it was Friday! TGIF was a mantra. Barking and jumping around, they'd race into the mud room where they'd bound and almost knock me off my feet to collect their leashes. Of course, Sam, the blind one, just barked and hopped about in excitement, remembering the days when he could see the beauty of Vermont, or so I like to think.

As I opened the front door, the boys would gallop out of the house and bounce happily into the back of our extra, extra large "Vermont Road Trip" SUV. Taking their "confirmed" places (they all had their own special spots), they'd lie down and sleep happily until, just until, I drove past the Meeting House on the top of Windham Hill Road.

I don't know how they knew, they just did. Their crazed excitement would be reenacted just like their departure from Connecticut. All insanity was here in full force, and there was no controlling the howling, barking and jumping dogs in the SUV that was now bouncing from side to side. Quite the spectacle, I can assure you. Their place in Vermont teased and beckoned them, just as it did me.

Our trusty SUV continued its descent from the Meeting House and into that ever so well known curve in the road, you know the one that wants to put a car into my living room every winter. That curve is playing chicken with me, I swear it is! Anyway, all was revealed as our beloved home drew us in. The garage door opened, and the light from inside shone upon us, pulling us in closer and closer. Our home, saddened by our departure just four days earlier, once again came alive and said, "Welcome back home. Where have you been?"

This feeling continues to this day, even if I just go out for a while. Since moving here full time last summer, we're finally home forever, and how lucky we are to now live in such a beautiful place as Windham, Vermont.



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FRESH FOOD MARKET

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MOUNTAIN MARKETPLACE

Jct. Route 100 and Route 11 in Londonderry

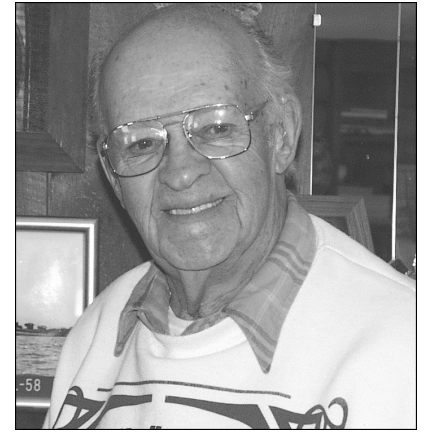
Ned Caron Brought Joy to Many

by Lynn Behrendt and Mary McCoy

Recently, Windham lost one of its beloved older residents when Ned Caron passed away, two years after his wife Gay. Ned and Gay bought their property in North Windham in the 1960s and moved here permanently in 1978 when Ned retired. Ned explained once that he didn't go south because "that's where old folks go." He was known for his great sense of humor.

Buddy and Lynn Behrendt lived near him on Edson Drive and remember him as a good neighbor who stopped by for frequent visits on his lawn tractor or in his golf cart, and who welcomed his neighbors into his and Gay's home. When the Behrendt kids were small they always brought their pennies to the Carons so they could put them in Ned's gumball machine and get jelly beans. He was a good friend to all he met, young and old, and also full of mischief, ever ready to "pull your leg".

While those who knew Ned probably remember him best for the joy and laughter he gave them, he was a serious contributor to Windham. He was a lister, served on the Planning Commission, which he chaired for a while, and for many years was on Windham's Citizens Advisory Committee. He and Gay are greatly missed.



Ned Caron

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Notice from Londonderry Transfer Station

Beginning January 1, 2016 you will be able to recycle all of your batteries not just the rechargeable ones. Boxes to collect primary (AA, AAA, C, D, etc.) and rechargeable batteries, and cell phones are located at Londonderry Hardware, Londonderry Transfer Station and Londonderry Town Office building. The list below is a guide that tells you which batteries MUST be bagged in provided plastic bags or have their terminals taped. You can use any tape except for scotch tape.

Container Type	Battery Type	Terminal Protection Required
Call2Recycle Box	Rechargeable - Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd); Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-Mh); Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn)	9V or Less = No Greater than 9V=Yes
Call2Recycle Box	Primary - Alkaline & Carbon Zinc	12V or Less=No Greater than 12V=Yes
Call2Recycle Box	Rechargeable - Small Sealed Lead Acid and Lithium Ion Primary - Lithium and Button/Coin Cell	Yes

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Photographs for Calendar Help Library

by Beverly Carmichael

Another year has passed, and the Library Photo Contest was once again a huge success. Twelve photos were chosen for the Library's 2016 calendar.

First place winner was Beverly Carmichael for "Looking For Trouble," second place winner was Drew Widger for "Boston," and third place winner was Ellen McDuffie for "Busy Bee of Summer." Honorable mention went to Imme Maurath, Phil McDuffie, Megan Carson, Leila Erhardt, Ashley Widger, Mark Griffin, Mary McCoy and Ginny Crittenden.

The calendars will be for sale at the Town Office and the Windham Library until they are gone. They cost \$10. This is our library's only fund-raiser, and it has been very helpful towards the purchase of new books. We would like

to thank everyone for
his or her
participation.

Happy New Year!



"Looking for Trouble"



"Busy Bee of Summer"



"Boston"

Town Contacts

Town Clerk: Bonnie Chamberlain; phone: 874-4211; email: windham.town@gmail.com
 Town Treasurer: Peter Chamberlain; phone: 874-4211; email: windham.towntreasurer@gmail.com
 Town Road Crew: Josh Dryden and Jon Gordon; phone: 874-7025 at the Town Garage
 Town Listers: Michael Simonds, chair; phone: 874-4790; email: michael@windhamcountryhouse.com
 Select Board: Mary Boyer, chair; phone: 875-5242; email: mfb@vermontel.net
 School Board: Beth McDonald; phone: 874-4015; email: 219woodburn@gmail.com
 Windham Community Organization: Ellen McDuffie; phone: 874-8183; email: eflockwood@aol.com
 Windham Volunteer Fire and Rescue: phone: 875-5332
 Health Officer: Marcia Clinton; phone: 875-3531; email: mclinton@vermontel.net

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by email to:
windhamnews@hotmail.com .



Please keep us informed of
any address changes

REGULAR MEETINGS & SCHEDULES



Town Clerk:

Monday: Noon - 4:30 PM
Tuesday: 8:30 AM - Noon
Wednesday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Thursday: 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM
**Closed - Fridays, MLK Day, and
President's Day.**
Call 874-4211.

Planning and Zoning:

Second Wednesday of the
month at 6 PM at the Town
Office: Jan 13 & Feb 10.
Call Bob Bingham at
874-9934 to confirm.

Windham Community Organization:

No meeting in January.
Feb 24 at 7 PM at the
Meeting House. Call Ellen
McDuffie at 874-8183 to
confirm,

Windham Congregational Church (UCC):

Sundays: Worship Services
at 9:30 AM at the Meeting
House (downstairs).

Select Board:

All Mondays in January,
Feb 1 & 15 at 6:30 PM at
the Town Office;
Open meetings. Call Mary
Boyer at 875-5242 for info.

Library:

Every Wednesday, 3-5 PM
at the Meeting House.
Book Group: 1st Wednesday
Jan 6 & Feb 3 at 3 PM at
the Meeting House.

Valley Bible Church:

Sundays: Sunday School,
9:55 AM; Morning Worship,
11 AM; Potluck, 12:10 PM;
Sun. Afternoon Service,
1:10 PM; Tuesdays: Bible
study/ Prayer, 7 PM.

School Board:

First Monday of the month
at 4 PM at the Elementary
School; **Note: Jan 4 at
3 PM; Feb 1 at 4 PM;**
Budget Mtg. at 6:30 PM
Call Antje at 874-4759.

Volunteer Fire Company:

First Thursday of the
month at 6 PM at the
Firehouse;
Jan 7 & Feb 4.
Heavy refreshments
served.

Listers:

Every Wednesday
9 AM- Noon at the Town
Office.

SAVE THE DATE

January 16: Ben Luce 6 PM at the school

February 15: Deadline for articles

March 1: TOWN MEETING DAY 10 AM and PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY

April 15: DEADLINE to FILE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION





Meredith Tipps-McLaine and Freddie
"Tony the Tiger" McLaine



Halloween Hayride



"Scarey Pair"; Linda Wietzel & Ralph Wyman



Halloween Musical Chairs; Lucca Pozzi, Jake Desautels
(in background) and Kylee Pare



Scarey Ralph Wyman and Megan Carson



Freddie McLaine wins "The Funniest" at Halloween Party as "Tony the Tiger"



Caleb "Will Work for Candy"



Ned Caron



Jojo Chlebogiannis's Dogs



Keith and Kathy Jungermann



Vance and Maureen Bell



John Boynton and Cathy Stover with their heat pump



Tom and Beverly Carmichael in the kitchen together!

Mountain Lions Club Seeks Members

by Randee Keith

You can help start a new Lions Club to provide services for Windham and neighboring towns. The Lions are first in sight and hearing, helping those in need get eye exams, glasses and equipment for the visually impaired, hearing tests, and hearing aids. Other services are provided too. All monies earned from fund-raisers go back to the community.

They need 20 charter members to start a Tri Mountain Club and welcome individuals from Windham, Winhall, Jamaica, Landgrove, Peru, Weston & Londonderry. Their next meeting is January 7 at 7:00 PM at the Meeting Place, Neighborhood Connections, Mountain Marketplace, Londonderry.

For more information, call Randee Keith at 802-824-6750 or email her at randee.55@comcast.net.

Meals on Wheels Needs Help

by Amanda Hescock

When shopping for or preparing food is difficult due to illness or advancing age, eligible seniors can get help from Meals on Wheels. The organization needs caring people to make deliveries of meals, who can commit an hour or two a week or a month or who are able to act as back-ups on an on-call basis. Volunteers pick up meals at Valley Cares in Townshend around 11:00 AM on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Delivering the meals with a friendly smile usually takes half an hour to one hour. Contact Amanda Hescock at 802-365-7190 if you are able to help.

West River Valley Thrives Has New Director

from West River Valley Thrives

West River Valley Thrives, a substance abuse prevention coalition serving youth in Newfane, Townshend, Jamaica, Marlboro, Brookline, Wardsboro, and Windham, is pleased to welcome Kristin Cox as its new program director. Kristin has a master's degree in healthcare administration and has experience working in the developmental services field.

“My work in community outreach has taught me the importance of giving people the opportunities and support they need to make healthy choices and to strive for wellness,” says Cox. “Through collaboration and partnership with different resources and organizations, our communities can create a positive force of change for their residents. As a West River Valley resident, I appreciate this opportunity to work closely with my local community to prevent substance abuse.”

Cox is looking forward to learning more about the West River Valley community and its groups. She is happy to meet with anyone who is interested in hearing more about herself or the work of West River Valley Thrives.

3SquaresVT Boosts Food Purchasing Power

from 3Squares Vermont

Many senior citizens are cutting back on their food budgets as expenses rise, but good nutrition is a key factor in lifelong health. To encourage healthy eating, the U.S. Department of Agriculture offers the 3SquaresVT program to help eligible Vermonters buy nutritious food.

The benefits come on an EBT card that looks like a debit or credit card; there are no “food stamps” anymore. If everyone in the household is 65 or older or gets SSI, then the benefits may be distributed as cash, deposited directly into the family’s bank account.

3SquaresVT is open to individuals and families who qualify based on household income. Anyone who is over 60 or has a disability may deduct many medical expenses from their income, which can help with qualification.

For more information, or help applying for 3SquaresVT, call the Vermont Senior Help-Line at 1-800-642-5119.

Zumba Gold in Windham!

from Pauline O’Brien

Zumba Gold is a high-energy, Latin infused dance fitness class, designed to cater to the needs of beginners of all ages, active older adults, and individuals with physical limitations. Zumba® Gold involves lower impact than regular Zumba and moves at a more fluid pace. This dance exercise is associated with many health benefits! Come join the fun! Tuesdays @ 4:30 PM, Windham Elementary School. \$8 per class, ZIN certified instructor. For more information, please contact Pauline O’Brien, paulinebob@hotmail.com, 802-376-5397.